



INFORMATION FOR THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY AND THE PUBLIC
FROM THE
D.C. BOARD OF MEDICINE

March 2005

***MEDICAL, ACUPUNCTURE AND
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT RENEWALS
COMPLETED***

The renewal cycle for physicians, acupuncturists and physician assistants ended on March 2, 2005. Any practitioner in those professions who did not renew by March 2nd will have to apply for re-instatement in order to continue to practice in the District of Columbia. Re-instatement applications can be obtained on the Internet at www.dchealth.dc.gov. Once you reach that site, click on "Professional Licensing." You can also request a re-instatement application by calling 1-888-204-6193.

This renewal cycle was the first cycle in which physicians, physician assistants and acupuncturists could renew on line, and we have received comments on the facility of the process. Approximately fifty percent of the renewing licensees renewed using the Internet, and the Department of Health and the Board of Medicine seek to increase that percentage in the future. In future renewal cycles, notices of renewal requirements with pin numbers will be mailed, but no paper renewal forms will be mailed. Licensees will be able to request a paper renewal application, however.

BOARD OFFICE MOVED

The office of the D.C. Board of Medicine has moved to Suite 600, 717 14th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. The main phone line is (202) 724-4900. The Fax number is (202) 724-8677. The new facility will allow staff expansion and co-location with our contractor's

personnel. The new offices are one half block north of G Street and one block away from the Metro Center stop on the Red Line. For application request and status information, please continue to call our contractor at 1-888-204-6193.

***FEDERAL LAW MANDATES
REPORTING BY HEALTH CARE
ENTITIES TO THE BOARD OF
MEDICINE***

Title 42 of the Annotated U.S. Code at Section 11133 requires that each health care entity report on physicians to the D.C. Board of Medicine when the health care entity:

- (A) takes a professional review action that adversely affects the clinical privileges of a physician for a period of longer than thirty days;
- (B) accepts the surrender of clinical privileges of a physician—
 - (i) while the physician is under by the entity relating to possible incompetence, or improper professional conduct, or
 - (ii) in return for not conducting such an investigation or proceeding; or
- (C) in the case of such an entity which is a professional society, takes a professional review action which adversely affects the membership of the physician in the society.

2004 BOARD ORDERS

Revoked

Hafizi, Abdolhossein: (9/29/04) D.C. medical license was revoked upon voluntary surrender. The physician surrendered his license upon criminal conviction involving sexual harassment of a patient.

Ruona, Luanne: (12/22/04) D.C. medical license was revoked upon voluntary surrender after a summary suspension for relapsed alcohol abuse.

Summarily Suspended

Quinn, Jewel A. Jr.: (5/26/04) D.C. medical license was summarily suspended effective May 26, 2004. The physician was charged with presenting an imminent danger to the health and safety of the residents of the District of Columbia by maintaining an unsanitary office and performing services under unsanitary conditions, demonstrating a willful or careless disregard for the health, welfare or safety of patients and professional or mental incompetence.

Hafizi, Abdolhossein: (8/9/04) D.C. medical license was summarily suspended effective August 9, 2004. The physician was charged with presenting an imminent danger to the health and safety of the residents of the District of Columbia as a result sexual harassment of a patient. The physician pled guilty to a criminal charge based on that conduct.

Niechniedowicz, Frank E.: (12/13/04) D.C. medical license summarily suspended effective December 13, 2004. The physician surrendered his Pennsylvania medical license by consent order for reasons that included an admission that he suffers from severe health problems, which have rendered him physically unable to continue to practice medicine. The physician was also disciplined by the Arizona Medical Board for quality of care issues.

Ruona, Luanne: (8/2/04) D.C. medical license was summarily suspended for violation of a consent decree related to relapsed alcohol abuse.

Suspended, Probation, Practice Supervision and Reporting Requirements

Eisenbrey, Jean M.: (5/26/04) D.C. medical license was suspended with suspension (stayed), placed on two years probation *nunc pro tunc* to June 25, 2003, practice supervision and reporting requirements. The physician was disciplined in Maryland for quality of care issues.

Probation, Reprimanded and Reporting Requirements

Rind, Bruce: (3/17/04) Placed on probation for eighteen (18) months, reprimanded and reporting requirements, by consent order. The physician was disciplined in Maryland for conduct (quality of care contrary to accepted practices and poor record-keeping) that would be grounds for disciplinary action if it occurred in D.C.

Blackburn, Frank C.: (6/13/04) Placed on probation for three years, reprimanded, required to have a chaperone present during the examination or treatment of a patient and reporting requirements. The physician pled guilty to simple assault on a patient.

Diwani, Selwa: (11/30/04) Placed on probation two years *nunc pro tunc* to October 30, 2002, reprimanded and reporting requirements. The physician was disciplined in Maryland for ordering unnecessary laboratory tests, beginning treatment before receiving test results and immoral and unprofessional conduct.

Probation and Reprimanded

Jalota, Mukesh: (12/22/04) Reprimanded and placed on probation *nunc pro tunc* from February 26, 2003 until December 17, 2003. The physician was disciplined in Maryland for

violating appropriate standards for the delivery of quality medical care.

Probation and Remediation

Allen, David F.: (6/7/04) Indefinite probation and specified remediation. The physician was disciplined in Virginia for patient boundary violations.

Trent, Peter S.: (12/29/04) Indefinite probation and specified remediation. The physician was disciplined in Maryland for immoral and unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine, failing to meet appropriate standards of care, and selling, prescribing, giving away or administering drugs for illegal or illegitimate medical purposes.

Reprimanded and Practice Restrictions

Pole, Shriharsh: (4/28/04) Reprimanded and required to have a female chaperone present at all times when conducting examinations on female patients. The physician was disciplined in Virginia for failure to provide appropriate quality of care and observe personal boundaries with patients.

Reprimanded

Marks, Michael A.: (6/24/04) The physician was reprimanded for making a statement on his renewal that he knew or should have known was false.

Probation Terminated

Allen, David F: (8/10/04) Probation terminated. The physician satisfied the terms of his probation.

Kronen, Michael, M.D.: (12/8/04) Probation terminated. The physician satisfied the terms of his probation.

Restricted License

Roberts, Jeffrey Neal: (6/8/04) Issued license restricted to participation in a pathology postgraduate program, due to disciplinary action

in Colorado. The license was subsequently surrendered when the physician's appointment to the program did not materialize.

2005 BOARD ORDERS

Summarily Suspended

Malakoff, Gary A.: (1/14/05) D.C. medical license was summarily suspended for conduct that represented an imminent danger to the health and safety of the residents of the District of Columbia, including relapsed substance abuse and filing false statements with the Board.

Nwosu, Okenwa R.: (2/25/05) D.C. medical license was summarily suspended for conduct that represented an imminent danger to the health and safety of the residents of District of Columbia, including disciplinary action in Maryland for filing a false medical report and quality of care issues.

Suspended and Reprimanded

O'Brien, Michael J. (3/23/05) The physician was reprimanded and his D.C. osteopathic license was suspended until such time as he has an unencumbered license in Ohio. The physician's Ohio license was suspended for not less than four years as a result of obtaining and using controlled substances and dangerous drugs while on duty as an anesthesiologist.

Reprimanded and Fined

Harding, Alwin: (1/26/05) The physician was reprimanded and fined \$5,000 for willfully practicing a health occupation with an unlicensed person or aiding an unlicensed person in the unauthorized practice of a health occupation, permitted a physician assistant to practice independently and failed to ensure that all actions taken by the physician assistant were governed by a standard or advanced job description registered by the Board, and failed to sign all medical orders and progress notes of the physician assistant.

Probation Terminated

Carter, Bennie: (3/30/05) Probation terminated. The physician satisfied the terms of his probation.

NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED

John J. Lynch, M.D. and Cheryl R. Williams, M.D. were appointed to the D.C. Board of Medicine as physician members, replacing Jean A. Linzau, M.D. and Morton J. Roberts, M.D. The Board and staff thank Dr. Linzau and Dr. Roberts for their service, and welcome Dr. Lynch and Dr. Williams.

The D.C. Board of Medicine

The current members of the Board are:

William E. Matory, M.D., Physician Member and Chairperson;

Gregg Pane, M.D., Statutory Member;

Frederick C. Finelli, M.D., Physician Member;

John J. Lynch, M.D., Physician Member;

Lawrence A. Manning, M.D., Physician Member;

Peter G. Shields, M.D., Physician Member;

Ronald Simmons, Ph.D., Consumer Member;

Andrea D. Sullivan, N.D., Ph.D., Consumer Member;

James A. Towns, Esq., Consumer Member;

Raymond K. Tu, M.D., Physician Member; and

Cheryl R. Williams, M.D., Physician Member

The Board staff includes **Mr. James R. Granger, Jr.,** Executive Director, **Ms. Lisa Robinson** and **Ms. Antoinette Stokes,** Health Licensing Specialists. The Board's phone number is (202) 724-4900. The fax number is (202) 724-8677.

THE BOARD'S MISSION

The mission of the D.C. Board of Medicine is to regulate the practice of medicine in Washington, D.C. Regulation is achieved through three primary means, the application process, the disciplinary process and public outreach.

The application process is the process in which the Board ensures that applicants for medical, osteopathic, physician assistant and acupuncture licenses meet the requirements in terms of education, examination and experience that are specified in D.C. regulations.

The disciplinary process is the process in which the Board requires remediation or takes disciplinary actions against physicians who violate the license law or regulations. Disciplinary actions may include fines, reprimands, probation, suspension or revocation.

Public outreach involves providing the public with the information to assist in the selection, understanding and evaluation of a health care provider.

**We want to hear
from you!**

Is there a practice or regulatory issue that you want the Board to address??? Fax your query to (202) 724-8677, attention Jim Granger.